

FORM PTO/SB/08-A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449-A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number: PVI-5697CIPCON

Application Number: 10/714,462

Filing Date: November 13, 2003

Applicant(s): Jan O. Solem, et al.

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner Name: Urmi Chattopadhyay

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
WC		4,954,126	09-04-1990	Wallsten
		5,061,275	10-29-1991	Wallsten et al.
		5,534,007	07-09-1996	St. Germain et al.
		5,571,135	11-05-1996	Fraser et al.
		5,713,949	02-03-1998	Jayaraman
		6,027,525	02-22-2000	Suh et al.
		6,350,277 B1	02-26-2002	Kocur

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
WC		LAAKSOVIRTA et al., <i>Expansion and bioabsorption of the self-reinforced lactic and glycolic acid copolymer prostatic spiral stent</i> , PubMed, Excerpt from J Urol 2001 Sep; 166(3):919-22, one sheet
		LIU et al., <i>Sutural expansion osteogenesis for management of the bony-tissue defect in cleft palate repair: experimental studies in dogs</i> , PubMed, Excerpt from Plast Reconstr Surg 2000 May; 105(6):2012-25; discussion 2026-7, two sheets
		YONEYAMA et al., <i>Super-elastic property of Ti-Ni alloy for use in dentistry</i> , PubMed, Excerpt from Front Med Biol Eng 2000; 10(2):97-103, one sheet
		KOTIAN, <i>Shape memory effect and super elasticity it's dental applications</i> , PubMed, Excerpt from Indian J Dent Res 2001 Apr-Jun; 12(2):101-4, one sheet
		KUO et al., <i>The use of nickel-titanium alloy in orthopedic surgery in China</i> , PubMed, Excerpt from Orthopedics 1989 Jan; 12(1):111-6, one sheet

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	<i>Urmi Chattopadhyay</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	1/29/2006
--------------------	---------------------------	-----------------	-----------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 90114. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-0) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	Attorney Docket Number	PVI-5697CIPCON
	Application Number	10/714,462
	Filing Date	November 13, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Jan O. Solem, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	Urmi Chattopadhyay

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
UC		US 2001/0044568 A1	11-22-2001	Langberg, et al.
		US 2002/0016628 A1	02-07-2002	Langberg et al.
		US 2002/0022880 A1	02-21-2002	Melvin
		US 2002/0087173 A1	07-04-2002	Alferness et al.
		US 2002/0103532 A1	08-01-2002	Langberg et al.
		US 2002/0103533 A1	08-01-2002	Langberg et al.
		US 2002/0111533 A1	08-15-2002	Melvin
		US 2002/0151961 A1	10-17-2002	Lashinski et al.
		4,164,046	08-14-1979	Cooley
		5,006,106	04-09-1991	Angelchik
		5,476,471	12-19-1995	Shifrin et al.
		5,584,879	12-17-1996	Reimold et al.
		5,674,280	10-07-1997	Davidson et al.
		5,741,274	04-21-1998	Lenker et al.
		5,876,419	03-02-1999	Carpenter, et al.
		5,919,233	07-06-1999	Knopf et al.
		6,183,411 B1	02-06-2001	Mortier et al.
		6,210,432 B1	04-03-2001	Solem et al.
		6,221,103 B1	04-24-2001	Melvin
		6,248,119 B1	06-19-2001	Solem
		6,250,308 B1	06-26-2001	Cox
		6,264,602 B1	07-24-2001	Mortier et al.
		6,264,691 B1	07-24-2001	Gabbay
✓		6,343,605 B1	02-05-2002	Lafontaine

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	<i>Urmi Chattopadhyay</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	1/29/2006
-----------------------	---------------------------	--------------------	-----------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST-16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

FORM PTO/SB/05A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number

PVI-5697CIPCON

Application Number

10/714,462

Filing Date

November 13, 2003

Applicant(s)

Jan O. Solem, et al.

Group Art Unit

3738

Examiner Name

Urmi Chattopadhyay

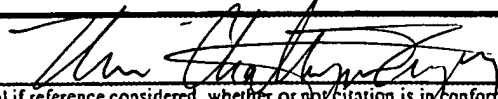
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
UC		6,402,679 B1	06-11-2002	Mortier et al.
		6,402,680 B2	06-11-2002	Mortier et al.
		6,402,781 B1	06-11-2002	Langberg et al.
		6,409,760 B1	06-25-2002	Melvin

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

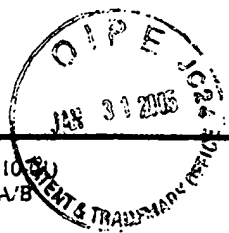
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² - Number ³ - Kind Code ⁴ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T (✓)
UC		WO 95/16407	06-22-1995	Reimold et al.	
		WO 98/18411	05-07-1998	Mahmoodi	
		WO 99/44534	09-10-1999	Melvin	
		WO 99/53977	10-28-1999	Talpade	
		WO 00/18320	04-06-2000	Melvin	
		WO 00/44313	08-03-2000	Lambrech et al.	
		WO 01/50985	07-19-2001	Liddicoat et al.	
		WO 02/00099	01-03-2002	Liddicoat et al.	
		WO 02/01999	01-10-2002	Liddicoat et al.	
		WO 02/05888	01-24-2002	Streeter et al.	
		WO 02/34118	05-02-2002	Streeter et al.	
		WO 02/053206	07-11-2002	Alferness	
		WO 02/060352	08-08-2002	Lashinski et al.	
		WO 02/062270	08-15-2002	Solem et al.	
		WO 02/062408	08-15-2002	Taylor et al.	

CKS PAS554534.1.*-03/10/04 1:33 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	1/29/2006
-----------------------	---	--------------------	-----------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind's Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



FORM PTC/SB/03-A/B (10/01/03) Substitute for PTO-1449-A/B INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	Attorney Docket Number	PVI-5697CIPCON
	Application Number	10/714,462
	Filing Date	November 13, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Jan O. Solem, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	Urmi Chattopadhyay

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
UC		US 2002/0124857 A1	09-12-2002	Schroepfel
		4,655,771	04-07-1987	Wallsten
		5,064,435	11-12-1991	Porter
		5,163,955	11-17-1992	Love et al.
		5,383,892	01-24-1995	Cardon et al.
		5,824,071	10-20-1998	Nelson et al.
		5,911,732	06-15-1999	Hojeibane
		5,980,552	11-09-1999	Pinchasik et al.
✓		6,203,556	03-20-2001	Evans et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² - Number ³ - Kind Code ⁴ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ⁵ (✓)
UC		DE 196 05 042 A1	01-15-1998	Gleich Anmelder	
		DE 196 11 755 A1	02-05-1998	Gleich Anmelder	
		EP 0 727 239 A2	08-21-1996	Ockuly et al.	
		WO 00/41649	07-20-2000	Kocur	
		WO 01/00111 A1	01-04-2001	Solem et al.	
		WO 01/54618 A1	08-02-2001	Langberg et al.	
		WO 01/85061 A2	11-15-2001	Shapland et al.	
		WO 01/89426 A1	11-29-2001	Andrieu et al.	
		WO 02/076284 A2	10-03-2002	Cohn et al.	
		WO 02/078576 A2	10-10-2002	Liddicoat et al.	
✓		WO 02/096275 A2	12-05-2002	Cohn et al.	

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	<i>Urmi Chattopadhyay</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	1/29/2006
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.</small>			

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



FORM PTO/SB/03.A/B (10-01) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	Attorney Docket Number	PVI-5697CIPCON
	Application Number	10/714,462
	Filing Date	November 13, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Jan O. Solem, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	Urmil Chattopadhyay

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² - Number ³ - Kind Code ⁴ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ⁵ (✓)
UC		WO 02/062263 A2	08-15-2002	Cohn et al.	
UC		WO 96/40356	12-19-1996	Whayne et al.	

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
UC		European Patent Office Office action dated December 22, 2003 for Application No. 00 946 661.6 - 2310
		Written Opinion dated November 8, 2002 for International application No. PCT/EP01/10371
		International Search Report dated April 23, 2002 for International application No. PCT/EP 01/10371
		International Search Report dated March 15, 2000
		International Search Report dated October 9, 2002 for National application No. 0200073-5
		International Search Report dated June 5, 2003 for International application No. PCT/EP 02/14655
✓		

CKS PAS554558.1-03/11/04 2:37 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	1/29/2006
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.</small>			

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number

PVI-5697CIPCON

Application Number

10/714,462

Filing Date

November 13, 2003

Applicant(s)

Jan O. Solem, et al.

Group Art Unit

3738

Examiner Name

Urmi Chattopadhyay

OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
UC		CIVJAN et al., <i>Potential applications of certain nickel-titanium (nitinol) alloys</i> , PubMed, Excerpt from J Dent Res 1975 Jan-Feb;54(1):89-96, one sheet
↓		BRENNAN, <i>SUITE OF SHAPE-MEMORY POLYMERS</i> , http://pubs.acs.org/cen/topstory/7906notw1.html , News of the Week Materials, February 5, 2001, Volume 79, Number 6, Ceneer 79 6 pp.5, ISSN 0009-2347, Mairin Brennan, three sheets
✓		STIKEMAN, <i>Total Recall</i> , Technology Review - Innovation: Total Recall, An MIT Enterprise Technology Review, June 2001, two sheets

CKS PAS554577.1.*-03/11/04 4:57 PM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	1/29/2006
-----------------------	--	--------------------	-----------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MEG/cks

Sheet 6 of 6

FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number

PVI-5697-
CIPCON/51533/MEG/E303

Application Number

10/714,462

Filing Date

November 13, 2003

Applicant(s)

Jan Otto Solem, et al.

Group Art Unit

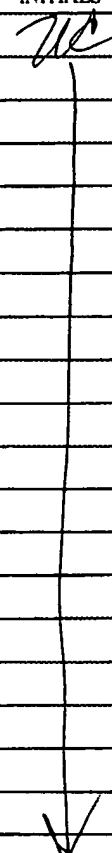
3738

Examiner Name

Urmi Chattopadhyay

CKS PAS582017.1-*03/7/05 9:45 AM

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE
		US 2002/0019660 A1	02-14-2002	Gianotti et al.
		US 2004/0102841 A1	05-27-2004	Langberg et al.
		US 2004/0133192 A1	07-08-2004	Houser et al.
		US 2004/0153146 A1	08-05-2004	Lashinski et al.
		5,104,404	04-14-1992	Wolff
		5,170,802	12-15-1992	Mehra
		5,593,442	01-14-1997	Klein
		5,607,444	03-04-1997	Lam
		5,817,126	10-06-1998	Imran
		6,093,203	07-25-2000	Uflacker
		6,325,826	12-04-2001	Vardi et al.
		6,537,314 B2	03-25-2003	Langberg et al.
		6,569,198 B1	05-27-2003	Wilson et al.
		6,626,899 B2	9-30-2003	Houser et al.
		6,656,221 B2	12-02-2003	Taylor et al.
		6,669,687 B1	12-30-2003	Saadat
		6,702,826 B2	03-09-2004	Liddicoat et al.
		6,706,065 B2	03-16-2004	Langberg et al.
		6,709,456 B2	03-23-2004	Langberg et al.
	6,790,231 B2	09-14-2004	Liddicoat et al.	

EXAMINER
SIGNATURE

Urmi Chattopadhyay

DATE
CONSIDERED

1/29/2006

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	Attorney Docket Number	PVI-5697- CIPCON/51533/MEG/E303
	Application Number	10/714,462
	Filing Date	November 13, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Jan Otto Solem, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	Urmi Chattopadhyay

CKS PAS582017.1-* -03/7/05 9:45 AM

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ⁶ (✓)

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
<i>UC</i>		Buchanan et al., Circumferential Suture of the Mitral Annulus for Correction of Mitral Regurgitation in Dogs, Veterinary Surgery, 27: 182-193, 1998.
<i>UC</i>		Buchanan JW, Sammarco CD, Circumferential Suture of the Mitral Annulus for Correction of Mitral Regurgitation in Dogs, PubMed, Excerpt from Vet Surg 1998 May-June; 27(3): 183-93, abstract, one sheet.

615167_1.DOC

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	<i>Urmi Chattopadhyay</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	<i>1/29/2006</i>
<small>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.</small>			

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE